



LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM PLANNING GRANTS

JOINT APPLICATION FORM

APRIL 23, 2014

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Applications are due July 7, 2014. Application packets must be RECEIVED by 5pm July 7, 2014. Proposals must be emailed or mailed; faxed responses will not be considered. Applications will not be deemed complete until an adopted resolution is received for each grant program. Applications that do not contain the final, adopted resolution(s) by July 7, 2014 will not be considered for funding. The Coastal Commission and Ocean Protection Council are expected to award grants in early fall 2014.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Indicate which grant programs you are applying for (can be one or both).

☐ ~~OPC LCP Sea Level Rise Grant~~
☒ Coastal Commission LCP Planning Grant

Applicant name (organization): City of Los Angeles, Department of City Planning

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project title: City of Los Angeles Venice Local Coastal Program

LCP/ LCP Segment: City of Los Angeles

Project location: City / Geographic area: Los Angeles/Venice

County: Los Angeles

Project timeline: Start date: June 2015

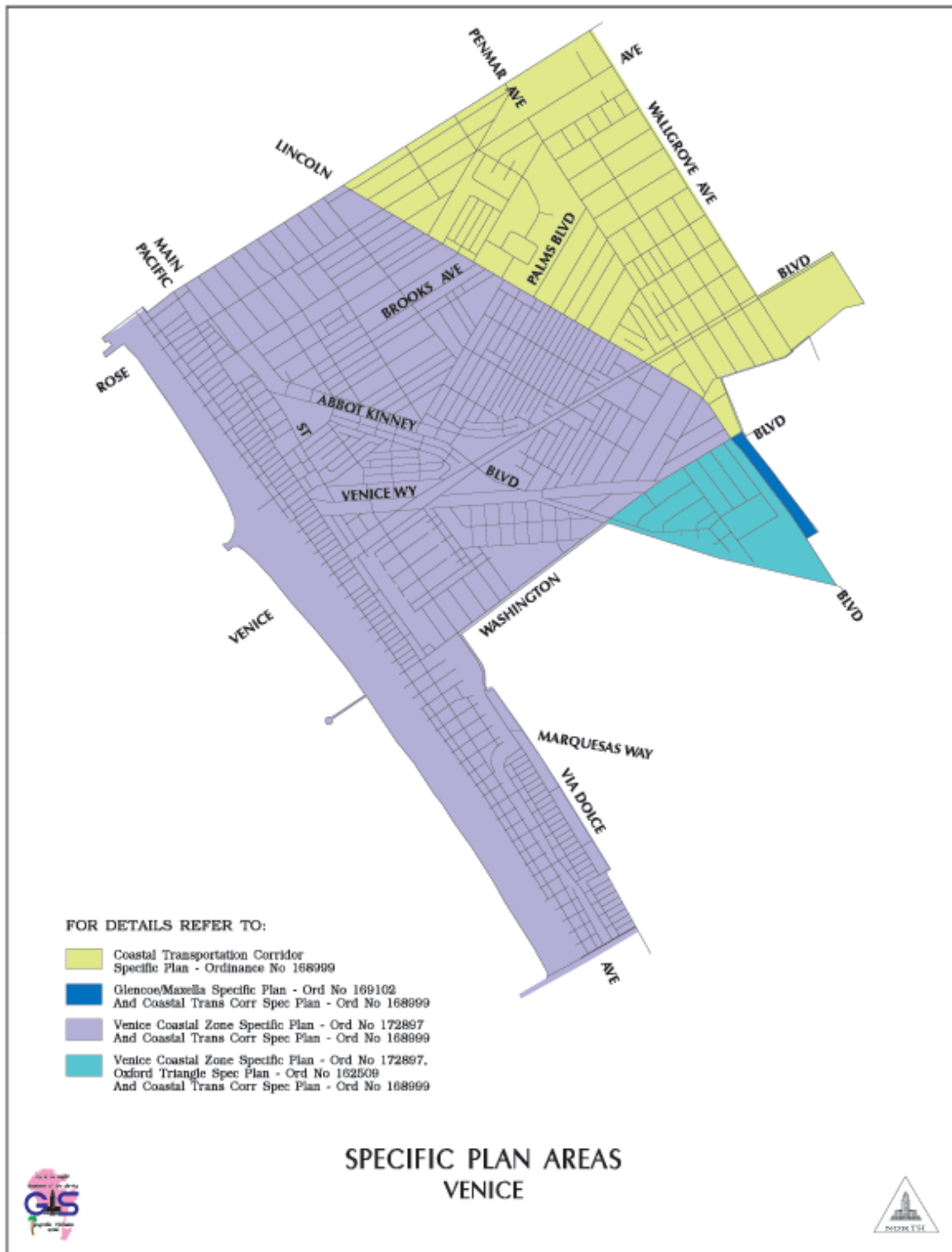
End date: June 2017

Amount of Grant Proposal: \$450,000

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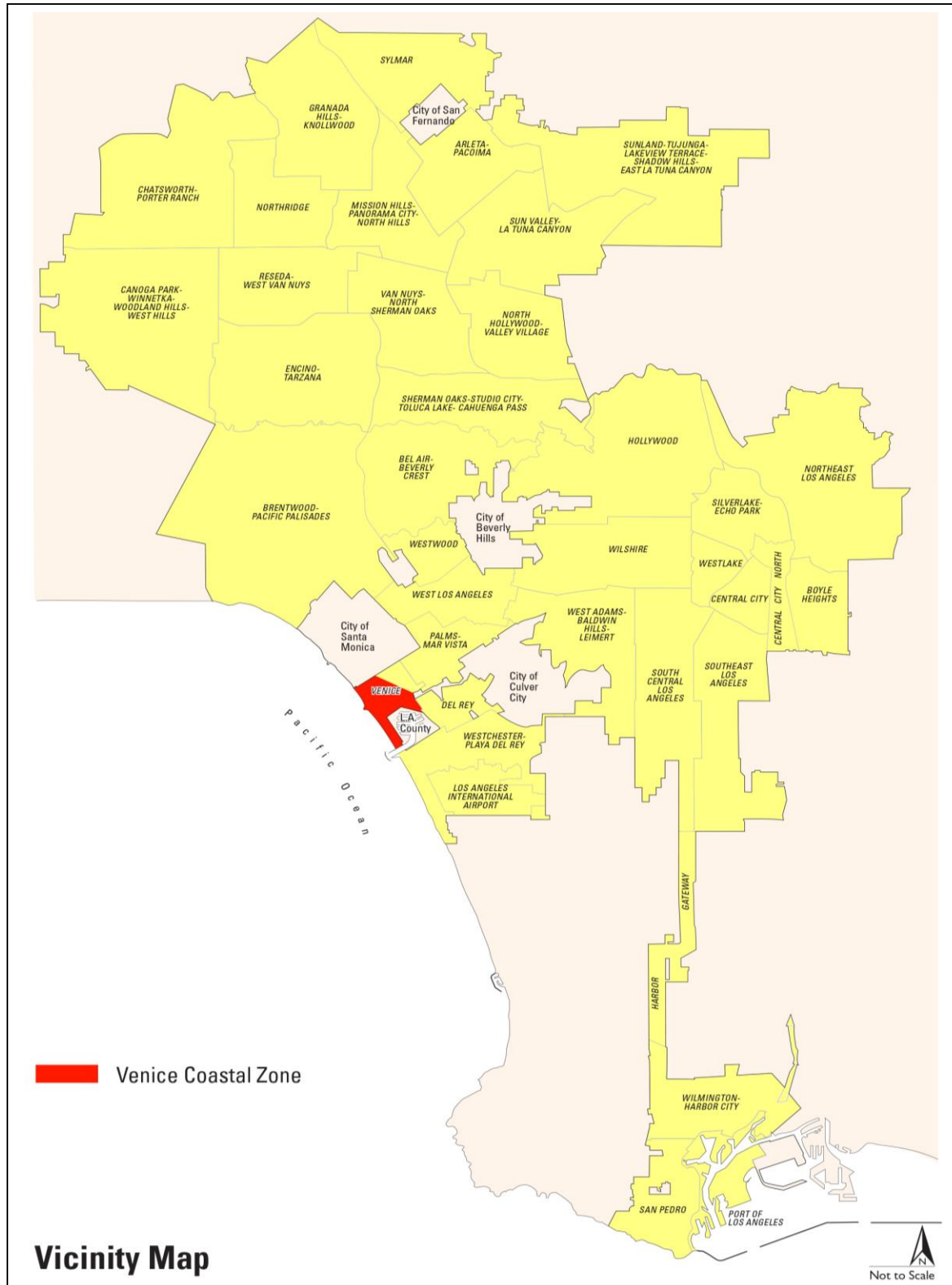
MAPS AND PHOTOS

Map 1 - Venice Coastal Zone



MAPS AND PHOTOS-

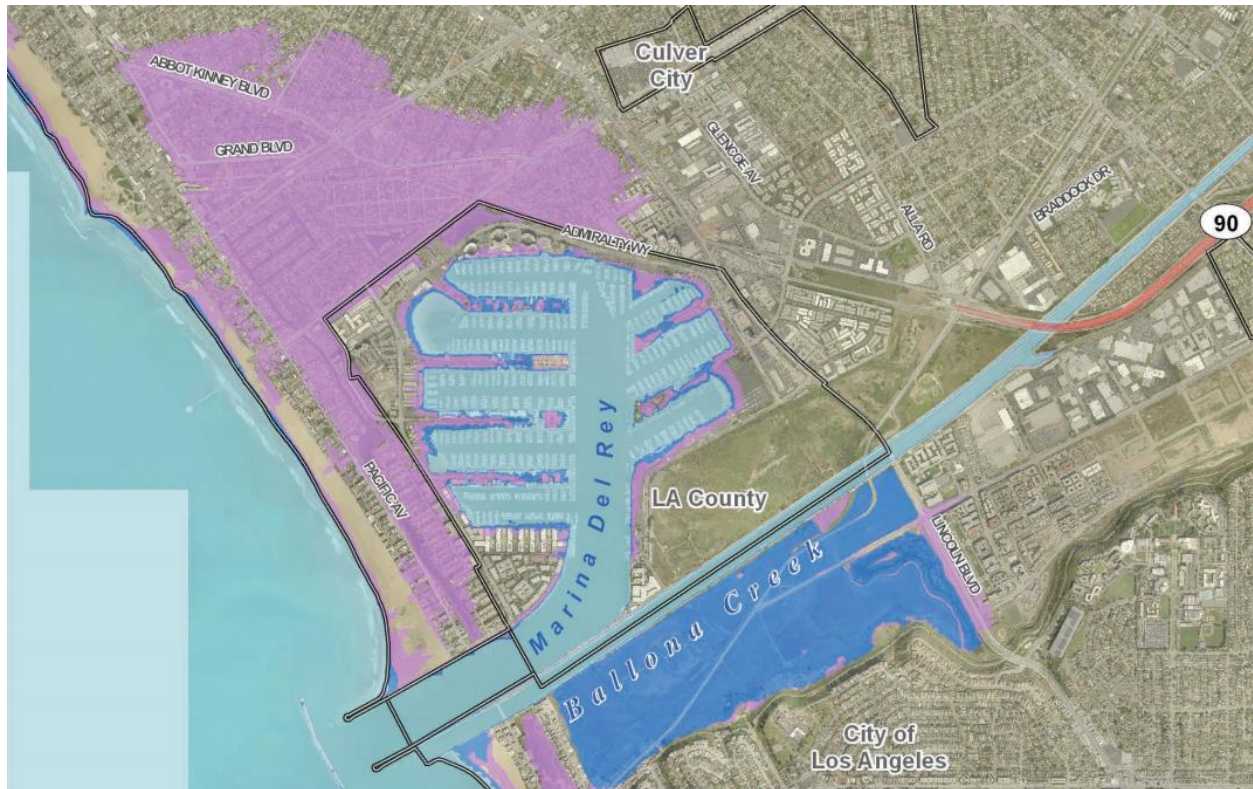
Map 2 – Venice Coastal Zone within the City of Los Angeles



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MAPS AND PHOTOS-

Map 3 - Sea Level Rise Chart – Venice Area



Legend

-  USGS 2010 Storm
-  USGS 2010 Storm + 50 yr SLR
-  USGS 2010 Storm + 100 yr SLR

 City of Los Angeles Boundary

Note: Sea Level Rise (SLR)
0.5 m for 50 yr
1.4 m for 100 yr

Source:

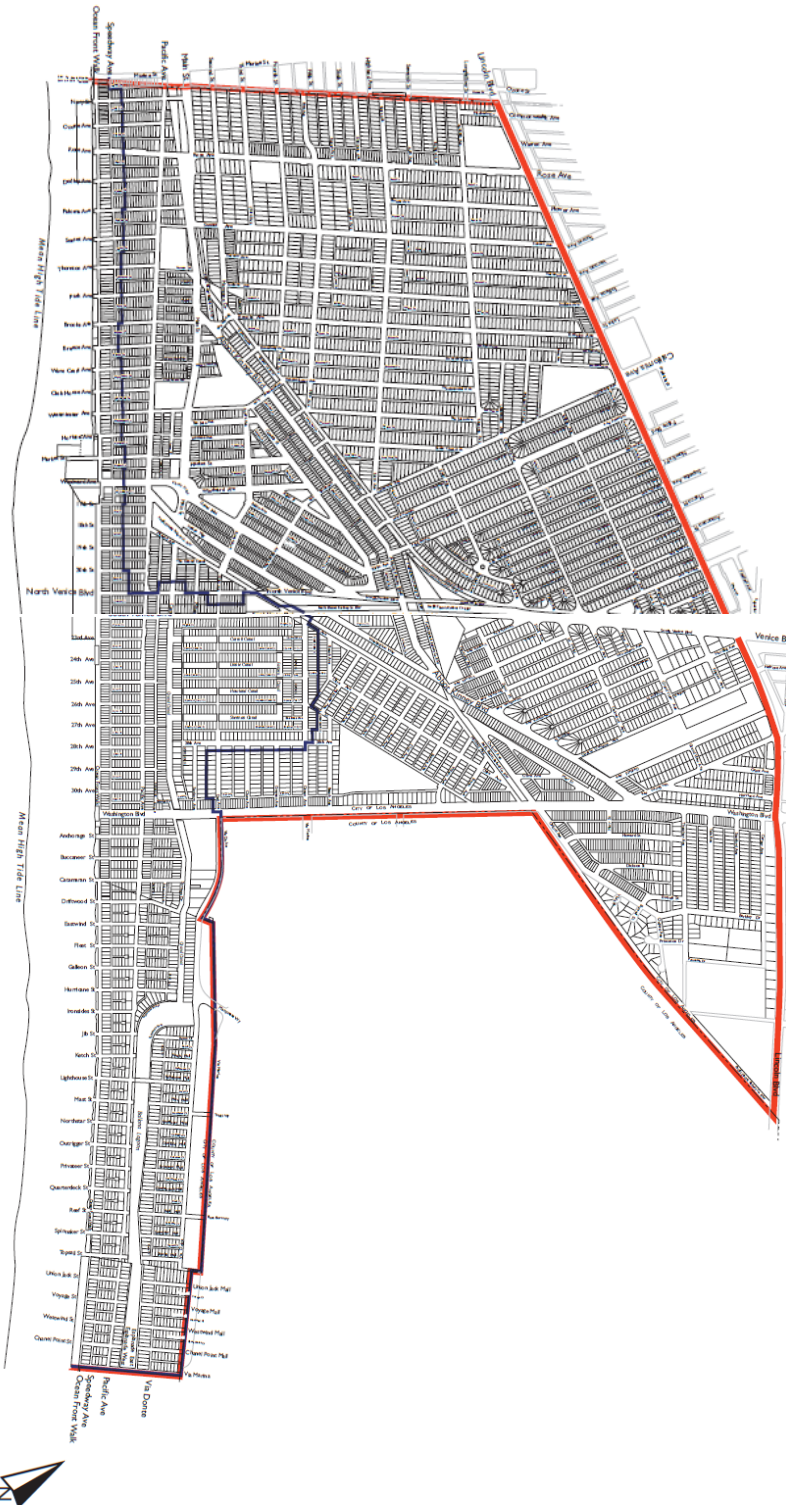
http://www.usc.edu/org/seagrant/research/SeaLevelRise_docs/hires_pdfs/City%20of%20LA%20SLR%20Vulnerability%20Study%20FINAL%20Summary%20Report%20Online%20Hyperlinks.pdf

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MAPS AND PHOTOS-

Map 4 – Venice Area Dual Jurisdiction Zone



Venice Coastal Zone

- Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan Area
- Dual Jurisdiction Zone

Source:
http://cityplanning.lacity.org/complan/specplan/spmaps/Detail/VeniceLUP/venc_oast_index.pdf

APPLICATION MATERIALS

1. A PROJECT DESCRIPTION

a. Goals and objectives:

The City of Los Angeles, Department of City Planning respectfully submits an application for the Local Coastal Program Planning Grant Program available fiscal year 2014-15. This grant would support the eventual preparation of a full Venice Local Coastal Program. At present, the environmental and development pressures in Venice need to be addressed. The City of Los Angeles recognizes its coast as a vital public asset that needs protecting and seeks to ensure continued ease of public access to the coast. The City of Los Angeles recognizes climate change and resulting sea level rise as a looming issue that can have negative effects on our citizens and communities. Finally, the City of Los Angeles recognizes the rights of property owners to develop their land, with sound environmental and ecological practices, through a consolidated and smooth permitting process. The current system of development in Venice is not fully suited to ensure these outcomes. The City of Los Angeles sees full implementation of a Venice Local Coastal Plan as the method to address these goals of protection, access, climate adaptation, and development guidelines along the coast.

In a city as large and complex as Los Angeles, creating a full Local Coastal Program is an arduous process that has been previously attempted. Thus, any new attempts must be cogent and strategic. The funds requested in this grant application will be used to tackle some of the most pressing issues in the Venice community (See Map 1). This grant will produce a clear structure for an implementation plan to address permitting process redundancies, recommendations for updates to the Venice Community Plan and Specific Plan, and an environmental analysis for the Venice LCP. Once these various studies and recommendations are created, all of the ground work for a full Venice LCP will be created. Once the full Venice Local Coastal Program is completed it will not only solve many local issues for the Venice community but will also act as a pilot LCP, providing the City with a basis upon which to develop future LCP's in other coastal segments such as the Pacific Palisades, Playa Vista, Del Rey Lagoon, Airport/El Segundo Dunes, and San Pedro Segments (See Map 2). This grant will continue and expand upon the work of a previous grant that the City Planning Department received from the Coastal Commission in fiscal year 2013-14.

Project Details

i. History and Need for a Venice LCP

In 2001, a Venice Local Coastal Program was presented to the California Coastal Commission. During the certification process, the Land Use Plan was certified. However, the Implementing Ordinance was ultimately not certified. As a result, determinations for Coastal Development Permits (CDPs) were split, with applicants within the Dual Jurisdiction Zone processing their case through both the City of Los Angeles and the Coastal Commission while applicants within the Single Jurisdiction Zone were allowed to choose whether to process their case through the City of Los Angeles or the Coastal Commission (See Map 4). Since the Coastal Commission offers a more affordable CDP process as well as a

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shortened timeline as compared to the City, many applicants chose to submit projects to the Coastal Commission rather than the City of Los Angeles. As a result, the Coastal Commission is forced to dedicate significant resources and a disproportionate amount of state-wide staffing to permitting small projects whose issues are predominantly local and community-based in nature. On the local side of this issue, this process creates substantial confusion for the applicant, and displaces the ability of the City of Los Angeles in making critical, local land use decisions that affect the growth, sustainability and urban makeup of the City.

Currently the City of Los Angeles does not have a certified Local Coastal Program for any Coastal Area within the City. Creating a new Venice LCP would not only reduce caseload of the Coastal Commission Staff, and free up their resources, but it would also alleviate issues with applicant confusion, and allow the City of Los Angeles to exercise control of the critical land use decisions that shape development along the coastline, a major public benefit to existing and future residents who live, work, and visit the area. As the Venice community has become a hot spot for development the adoption of a fully implemented coastal program is crucial. A fully implemented local coastal program can help alleviate many of the issues that residents observe accompanying new development, such as beach access by cars, pedestrians, and other modes; parking availability for residents, local visitors, and beach-goers; appropriate development types, styles, and locations; and other community issues that may arise as a part of the initial community workshops. Certification of the Venice Local Program will serve as a blue print and also inform the City in the creation of LCPs in the future for the remainder of the City's Coastal resources.

The process to certify a Local Coastal Program was re-initiated in 2013 when the City was awarded a grant from the California Coastal Commission for an initial issues assessment and framework to be completed in July 2015. This grant, if awarded, will allow the City to continue this important work of certifying a Local Coastal Program.

ii. Project Integration

The City of Los Angeles has embarked on a number of complementary activities that can inform and influence the development of the Venice LCP. The concurrent plans include: re:codeLA looking at updating the citywide zoning code, Mobility Plan 2035 which will update street designations, Westside Mobility Plan which is looking at many transportation related issues in the Venice area, and the Transit Neighborhood Plans along the Expo corridor. These projects are explained in more detail in Supplemental Form A.

The overall goal of these planning efforts is a transportation system with flexible travel options, locating transit facilities near dense activity centers, and improving the overall quality of the street environment to and from those facilities. All of these efforts will help to remove some of the obstacles to adopting a LCP in the Venice Community by ultimately improving overall mobility through increasing

options for travel, providing alternatives to autos, accommodating change and LA's evolving transportation system, and mitigating impacts of new growth. Combined, these efforts represent more than \$6 million already committed to planning that will benefit the efforts to adopt an LCP in Venice.

b. Approach:

As a continuation of the Coastal Commission grant awarded to the City Planning Department in Fiscal Year 2013-14, this grant will take the documents and findings of the first grant, the Community Visioning and Issues Assessment Report (referred to as Phase 1 in the Work Program), and create recommended draft amendments to the Venice Community Plan, Specific Plan, and a new Local Implementation Plan (Phase 2 of the Work Program). After this section of work is completed the documents will need to be approved by multiple governing bodies before the City can officially present a full Local Coastal Program to the California Coastal Commission (Phase 3).

Tasks

- I. Review the boundaries of the Coastal Zone
 - a. A careful study of the boundary of the coastal zone needs to be compared to current models showing expected sea level rise (See Map 3) and mean high tide level
- II. Draft Amendments to the Venice Specific Plan
 - a. Review the current Specific Plan and cite any updates that need to be made
 - b. Develop method to account for climate change in the Specific Plan
 - c. Hold public workshops regarding questions and concerns with current and future implementation
 - d. Develop recommended amendments to the Specific Plan
- III. Draft Amendments to the Venice Community Plan
 - a. Review the current Community Plan and cite any updates that need to be made
 - b. Develop method to account for climate change in the Community Plan
 - c. Hold public workshops regarding questions and concerns with current and future implementation
 - d. Develop recommended amendments to the Community Plan
- IV. Identify the structure and organization of Local Implementation Plan
 - a. Climate Change Resilience: Assess which other city departments have prepared for climate change and how the LCP can incorporate or update their plans and procedures
 - b. Create report analyzing options for creating a consolidated action on climate change looking both at land use regulations and practices governed by other departments
- V. Develop recommendations for Coastal Development Permit Process
 - a. Assess past and current permitting process
 - b. Identify best practices of other large semi-coastal municipalities that have addressed coastal permitting issues and city-wide code updates – such as Long Beach

- c. Compare applicability of other jurisdictions' approaches to implementation observed to the context of Los Angeles
- d. Analyze how this LCP and amendments to other existing plans relates to re:codeLA (described below) and a potential coastal code in the City
- e. Create a preliminary document addressing dual jurisdiction issues and circulate at a public workshop
- VI. Environmental Analysis
 - a. Prepare an existing conditions report which will be used to environmentally clear amendments that will be made to existing plans such as the Venice Community Plan and Specific Plan
- VII. Outreach
 - a. This process will result in a minimum of three public workshops. One respectively for the updated Specific Plan, Community Plan, and Implementation Program; corresponding to Work Program tasks 2.2, 2.3, and 2.5. The public will have additional opportunities to comment on the plans as they are presented to City governing bodies and commissions.
 - b. Additional presentations and meetings will be held with specific groups as the need arises throughout the process.

Obstacles

Due to the currently ongoing re:codeLA process of updating the Los Angeles Zoning Code (the first comprehensive rewrite of the code since 1946) there will be a need to integrate potential changes to the citywide zoning code with the LIP and Specific Plan. However, this is an opportunity to tailor the new code to specifically address coastal zone and climate change issues. Additionally, community outreach and education will be necessary to engage the public in a dialogue and generate community driven solutions.

Stakeholders / Partners

The Venice community is very active. There are many local residents, property owners, and business owners who will be engaged throughout the process. In Los Angeles there is a very extensive network of Neighborhood Councils that are elected in each neighborhood and provide forums for local discussions; no doubt these groups will be very interested in our planning efforts and may act as partners in helping with outreach. Likely groups that will be involved will range from business groups and property owners, to homeless and affordable housing advocates to homeowners associations.

2. WORK PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE

Proposed starting date: June 30, 2015

Estimated completion: June 30, 2017

WORK PROGRAM

Venice Local Coastal Program	
PHASE 1: Issues Identification – <u>covered by a previous grant already awarded</u>	
1.1 Identify Goals and Issues	Projected start date: June 2014
City Planning will identify the full scope of goals and issues for the plan to address. The selection will be based on the Planning Department's survey of existing conditions and resources on the coastline.	Projected end date: June 2015 <i>Deliverable: Community Visioning and Issues Assessment Report</i>
PHASE 2: Draft Recommendations – <u>to be covered by this grant</u>	
2.1 Selection of Coastal Zones and Intradepartmental Discussions	Projected start date: July 2015
Selection of "Coastal Exempt Areas", "Coastal Zone", "Single Jurisdiction Zone", and "Dual Jurisdiction Zone" for Venice LCP.	Projected end date: September 2015 <i>Deliverables: Memo and Map identifying Proposed Zones</i>
2.2 Venice Specific Plan Amendment Recommendations	Projected start date: August 2015
Recommend targeted modifications to the Venice Specific Plan, taking into consideration past issues as well as new issues discussed during public visioning from Phase 1.	Projected end date: May 2016 <i>Deliverable: Recommendation Report of Venice Specific Plan Amendments</i>
2.3 Venice Community Plan (Land Use Plan) Amendment Recommendations	Projected start date: July 2016
Recommend targeted modifications to the Venice Community Plan, taking into consideration past issues as well as new issues discussed during public outreach under Phase 1.	Projected end date: March 2017 <i>Deliverable: Recommendation Report of Venice Community Plan Amendments</i>
2.4 Identify structure and organization of Local Implementation Ordinance (LIP)	Projected start date: January 2017
Incorporating Climate Adaptation practices, develop the LIP for Venice including practices employed or overseen by other city departments.	Projected end date: April 2017 <i>Deliverable: Recommendation Report of Structure and Organization of LIP</i>
2.5 Identify Streamlined Permit Process	Projected start date: February 2016
Development of process for Coastal Development Permits, ID process including hearing body, decision making body, appeals process and Coastal Commission appeals process for projects within Dual Jurisdiction Zones.	Projected end date: November 2016 <i>Deliverable: Draft permit flowchart to summarize the development process</i>
2.6 Environmental Analysis	Projected start date: August 2017
Preliminary environmental analysis and	Projected end date: June 2017

existing conditions/settings report.	<i>Deliverable: Existing Conditions Report</i>
2.7 Public Outreach and Intra/Interdepartmental Coordination	Projected start date: June 2015
Discuss findings within the Department of City Planning as well as with a Technical Advisory Committee comprised of the Department of Recreation and Parks, Transportation, Public Works, and any other necessary departments within the City of Los Angeles. Also Discuss findings with the Council and Mayor's Office.	Projected end date: June 2017 <i>Deliverables: Meeting notes from 12 TAC meetings; sign in sheets and handouts from 3 public workshops</i>
PHASE 3 Procedural Changes/Approvals – <i>not a part of this request</i>	
3.1 Draft Plans	Projected start date: 2017
Prepare text and graphics for draft versions of the Venice Community Plan, Venice Specific Plan, and Local Implementation Program	Projected end date: 2017 <i>Deliverable: Drafts of the Community Plan, Specific Plan, and LIP</i>
3.2 Westside Area planning Commission	Projected start date: 2018
Conduct public hearing at the Westside Area Planning Commission; both the Community Plan and Specific Plan need to be approved	Projected end date: 2018 <i>Deliverable: Copy of presentation, list of public comments and approval resolution</i>
3.3 City Planning Commission	Projected start date: 2018
Conduct public hearing at the full City Planning Commission; both the Community Plan and Specific Plan need to be approved	Projected end date: 2018 <i>Deliverable: Copy of presentation, list of public comments and approval resolution; staff report; and agenda</i>
3.4 City Council Adoption	Projected start date: 2018
Conduct public hearing at the full City Council; both the Community Plan and Specific Plan need to be approved	Projected end date: 2018 <i>Deliverable: Copy of presentation, list of public comments and approval resolution</i>
3.5 Coastal Commission Certification	Projected start date: 2018
Certified Venice Local Coastal Program including updated Venice Specific Plan, Community Plan, and Local implementation Plan	Projected end date: 2018 <i>Deliverable: Final LCP (LUP+LIP)</i>

BENCHMARK SCHEDULE

ACTIVITY	COMPLETION DATE
PHASE 1: Issues Identification – <i>covered by a previous grant already awarded</i>	
1.1 identify goals and issues	June 2015
PHASE 2: Draft Recommendations – <i>to be covered by this grant</i>	
2.1 selection of coastal zones and Intradepartmental Discussions	September 2015
2.2 Venice Specific Plan Amendment Recommendations	May 2016
2.3 Venice Community Plan (Land Use Plan) Amendment Recommendations	March 2017
2.4 Identify structure and organization of Local Implementation Ordinance (LIP)	April 2017
2.5 Identify Streamlined Permit Process	November 2016
2.6 Environmental Analysis	June 2017
2.7 Public Outreach and Intra/Interdepartmental Coordination	June 2017
PHASE 3 Procedural Changes/Approvals – <i>not a part of this request</i>	
3.1 Draft Plans	2017
3.2 Westside Area planning Commission	2018
3.3 City Planning Commission	2018
3.4 City Council Adoption	2018
3.5 Coastal Commission Certification	2018

3. A BUDGET

APPLICATION BUDGET INFORMATION

Funding Request: \$450,000

Total Project Cost: \$ 950,000

The ‘Applicant’s Funding’ column represents funding sources that have been identified by the Council Office for the district; however, these funds have not yet been secured. The expected applicant funding is \$500,000.

PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Task Number	Task Name	Total Cost	Allocation of total cost among all		
			Applicant's Funding	LCP Grant Funding	Other Funds (define below)
2.1	<i>Selection of Coastal Zones and Intradepartmental Discussions</i>	\$45,000	\$ 25,000	\$20,000	\$ -
2.2	<i>Venice Specific Plan Amendment Recommendations</i>	\$165,000	\$ 90,000	\$75,000	\$ -
2.3	<i>Venice Communtiy Plan (LUP) Amendment Recommendations</i>	\$165,000	\$ 90,000	\$75,000	\$ -
2.4	<i>Identify structure and organization of LIP</i>	\$105,000	\$ 60,000	\$45,000	\$ -
2.5	<i>Identify streamlined permit process</i>	\$70,000	\$ 50,000	\$20,000	\$ -
2.6	<i>Environmental Analysis</i>	\$300,000	\$ 100,000	\$200,000	\$ -
2.7	<i>Public outreach / Intra/Interdepartmental Coordination</i>	\$100,000	\$ 85,000	\$15,000	\$ -
TOTAL		\$950,000	\$500,000	\$450,000	\$0

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES (NOT INCLUDING IN-KIND SERVICES)

Source of funds	\$ Amount	Status (Committed, Applied, etc)
TOTAL	\$ -	

In-kind Services: \$245,000

The City of Los Angeles provides employees with benefits that exceed 40% of salaries and wages. Thus the additional percentage of benefits, beyond the maximum allowed 40% of this grant, will be provided in-kind by the City of Los Angeles to their staff. This additional percentage will be 50% of the salaries and wages.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Grant Application Budget Form

	Applicant's Funding	CCC Grant Funding	OPC Grant Funding	In-Kind Funding
Personnel				
Salaries and wages ¹	\$ 315,000	\$ 175,000	\$ -	\$ -
Benefits ²	\$ 125,000	\$ 70,000	\$ -	\$ 245,000
<i>Total Personnel</i>	\$ 440,000	\$ 245,000	\$ -	\$ 245,000
Consultants³				
Subcontractor A	\$ 35,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -
Subcontractor B (etc.)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Consultants	\$ 35,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -
Operating Expenses				
Postage/Shipping	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies/Materials ⁴	\$ 7,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -
Travel ⁵	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Indirect Costs	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 25,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -
Total Budget	\$ 500,000	\$ 450,000	\$ -	\$ 245,000

¹ Attach an explanation of rate(s) and hours for each position for which funds are being requested.

² Amount requested for benefits not to exceed 40% of amount requested for salary or wage.

³ All subcontractors must be selected pursuant to a competitive bidding process that seeks at least three (3) bids from responsible bidders.

⁴ Include a list of the major supplies and materials and how much they cost.

⁵ Travel reimbursement rates are the same as similarly situated state employees.

⁶ Indirect costs include, for example, a pro rata share of rent, utilities, and salaries for certain positions indirectly supporting the proposed project but not directly staffing it.

4. **A RESOLUTION (S) FROM THE APPLICANT'S GOVERNING BODY.**
City Council Resolution, passed July 1, 2014

12-1944-S3

RULE 16 7/1

RESOLUTION

TO CITY CLERK FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT
REGULAR COUNCIL AGENDA TO BE POSTED

#1

WHEREAS, the Budget Act of 2013 provides an appropriation of \$1 million for Coastal Commission grants in FY 14-15 to local governments to support Local Coastal Program (LCP) planning, and

WHEREAS, the California Coastal Commission (CCC), under the authority of the California Coastal Act, may provide financial assistance to support coastal planning and has approved a competitive grant program to provide such financial assistance for LCP planning; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the grant program is to develop new or updated LCPs in conformance with the California Coastal Act and to reflect current circumstances and new scientific information, including new understandings and concern for the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, grant proposals submitted under this grant program must complete land use plan and/or zoning work to either achieve submittal for certification of a Local Coastal Program (LCP) or an Area of Deferred Certification (ADC) or of a LCP Amendment to significantly update a certified LCP or LCP segments, including with special emphasis on effects of climate change and sea-level rise;

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles does not yet have an effectively certified LCP and desires to pursue a project that would result in the completion and submittal for certification by the California Coastal Commission a LCP and desires to assume permit issuing authority;

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles commits to and agrees to fully support a planning effort intended to complete a certified LCP pursuant to the provisions of the California Coastal Act, with full public participation and coordination with the Coastal Commission staff;

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles was awarded a \$100,000 grant in 2013 from the CCC to complete the first phase of community outreach and issues identification in the support of developing the LCP;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby directs the Department of City Planning to submit a grant application to the California Coastal Commission to provide financial and planning assistance, under authority of the California Coastal Act, in an amount up to \$450,000 to fund phase 2 of the project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the Director of Planning of the Department of City Planning to execute, in the name of the City of Los Angeles all necessary applications, contracts and agreements and amendments thereto to implement and carry out the grant application package attached hereto and any project approved through approval of the grant application.

PRESENTED BY:

MIKE BONIN

Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:

JUN 27 2014

AC.

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7/3/2014

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Previous City Council Resolution, passed December 18, 2013

12-1944-52
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DEC 11 2013

RESOLUTION
CLERK FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TO BE POSTED

#52

WHEREAS, the California State Budget Act of 2013 provides an appropriation of \$1 million for Coastal Commission grants in FY 2013-14 to local governments to support Local Coastal Program (LCP) planning; and

WHEREAS, the California Coastal Commission, under the authority of the California Coastal Act, may provide financial assistance to support coastal planning and has approved a competitive grant program to provide such financial assistance for LCP planning; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the grant program is to develop new or updated LCPs in conformance with the California Coastal Act and to reflect current circumstances and new scientific information, including new understandings and concern for the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, grant proposals submitted under this grant program must complete land use plan and/or zoning work to either achieve submittal for certification of a Local Coastal Program (LCP) or an Area of Deferred Certification (ADC) or of an LCP Amendment to significantly update a certified LCP or LCP segments, including with special emphasis on effects of climate change and sea-level rise; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles does not yet have an effectively certified LCP and desires to pursue a project that would result in the completion and submittal for certification by the California Coastal Commission of an Amendment to update the LCP; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles desires to pursue a project that would result in the completion and submittal for certification by the California Coastal Commission of an LCP and desires to assume permit issuing authority; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles commits to and agrees to fully support a planning effort intended to complete a certified LCP pursuant to the provisions of the California Coastal Act, with full public participation and coordination with the Coastal Commission staff;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby directs the Department of City Planning to submit the grant application package attached hereto as Attachment 1 to the California Coastal Commission to provide financial and planning assistance, under authority of the California Coastal Act, in the amount of \$1 million to fund the project more particularly described in the grant application package;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the Director of Planning of the Department of City Planning to execute, in the name of the City of Los Angeles all necessary applications, contracts and agreements and amendments thereto to implement and carry out the grant application package attached hereto and any project approved through approval of the grant application.

ADOPTED

DEC 18 2013

PRESENTED BY:

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

TO THE MAYOR FORTHWITH

SECONDED BY:

MIKE BONIN
Councilmember, 11th District

DEC 11 2013

ORIGINAL

7/3/2014

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Adopted Priorities and Criteria

1. Public Benefit/Significance

The coast is a large public asset in the west areas of Los Angeles. Since the coast and beaches are public property in the state of California it is essential that these spaces be democratic spaces where everyone has opportunities for recreation, relaxation, and exploration. To ensure the beaches stay accessible to all and coastal resources are protected for future generations efforts must be coordinated. There must be ample low-cost transportation options, easy and direct rules governing fair use and plans for coastal resource preservation with respect to development and climate change. Enacting a Venice Local Coastal Program would be the impetus to ensuring all of these public benefits for the Venice community.

The City of Los Angeles does not currently have a certified Local Coastal Program. During a previous attempt at certification of a Venice LCP in the early part of this decade, the City submitted both a Land Use Plan and an Implementing Ordinance. While the Land Use Plan, the Venice Specific Plan, was praised by the Commission for its comprehensiveness and effectiveness, the Implementation Ordinance did not satisfy the Coastal Commission's goals and therefore the LCP was not certified. As a result, the City of Los Angeles currently implements the Venice Specific Plan, issuing Director's Determinations for conforming projects while the Coastal Commission is still tasked with processing hundreds of Coastal Development Permits every year. With a new LCP the City of Los Angeles would assume the responsibility of issuing those Coastal Development Permits, freeing up Coastal Commission resources for the agency's other priorities. Additionally it would allow the City to make critical local decisions that shape the urban makeup of the Venice community.

2. Relative Need for LCP Update/Extent of Update

As part of a new LCP, the City intends to submit a new Implementing Ordinance to accompany the existing Venice Specific Plan and Venice Community Plan which will be amended through the LCP process. The Implementing Ordinance will include a process for approval of residential, commercial, industrial, public works, and recreational projects. It will also include criteria for a hearing body and an appeals process. An amended Venice Community Plan can house a framework discussion of Climate Change and Sea Level Rise. Building upon the lessons learned from the previous attempt at certification the Venice LCP will provide the City with a prototype upon which to build future LCPs for Pacific Palisades, San Pedro, Playa Del Rey and portions of LAX.

The Venice LCP could also be integrated as a part of an ongoing existing process to reformulate the Los Angeles Municipal Code into a more manageable, user-

friendly document. This process, entitled re:codeLA has been tasked with reformatting the Municipal Code in an effort to provide clear and predictable regulations that better meet the City's current and future needs as well as with developing new zoning tools customized for particular regions of the City. Successful certification of the Venice LCP could provide the foundation to allow for the creation of a new Coastal Code, which includes both the guidelines for development of the entire Coastal Region as well as policies for Climate Resilience.

3. Addressing the Effects of Climate Change

We are experiencing unprecedented extreme weather events which are rapidly altering our urban landscapes. Sea level rise is already evident in several parts of the country. Credible forecasts predict that a substantial increase in the magnitude of storm surge, flooding, pounding wave energy, and saltwater intrusion into groundwater will become the norm in all coastal communities. It is time for Coastal Communities to prepare by developing sustainable plans that incorporate Climate Change and Sea Level Rise in the process of developing zoning guidelines along the coastline.

Many other City Departments have prepared adaptation plans for their infrastructure in vulnerable areas thanks to leadership from the Mayor's office. This plan can help to coordinate those efforts as well as urge departments to update and bring into alignment their plans and governing codes.

4. Likelihood of Success/Effectiveness

The City Planning Department has documented the lessons learned from our previous attempt at certification and hopes to lead a successful process this round that includes interactive collaboration with the public, the California Coastal Commission and other city departments working on Climate Resilience Programs. We are confident that this effort will produce a successful Venice LCP which incorporates new permitting policies and procedures as well as Climate Resilience. Previous attempts at certification were disjointed and held over a long period of time, causing residents to lose interest on the topic of coastal development. This time, community engagement will be targeted and will include a dialogue regarding permit streamlining as well as Climate Resilience. One of the critical roles of the dialogue on Climate Resilience is to provide public education on the importance of shoreline adaptation policies to the sustainable growth of our City. This public education will be designed in such a way as to develop strong community and council support for the Venice LCP process.

The planning effort will involve the community in learning about and providing input into the coastal permitting process. Focus groups, public workshops, web pages, and a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will all be involved to inform and guide the City's process of developing the Venice LCP.

The City is confident that this new approach to developing an LCP will be a successful community exercise as well as a successful Planning exercise that will result in a Coastal Commission-certified Venice LCP.

5. Workload and Permit Streamlining

Providing more direct and clear zoning regulations for development near and protection of the City's coastal resources is expected to make the entitlement process less mysterious and more logical for the common public. Error in entitlement submission made by applicants is a major contributor to project delays. Improving and demystifying the process allows for applicants to make more informed decisions regarding their discretionary requests, thereby reducing project delays, resulting in an organic streamlining process.

In addition, the Venice Specific Plan and implementing ordinance will provide clear regulations regarding the Coastal Development process for all projects, not just a select few that are either required to submit to us or chose to submit to us. Understanding and preparing for the caseload will allow the Planning Department to adequately assess the need for staff to process the Coastal Development permits, thereby streamlining the process.

As mentioned previously, this effort will be coordinated with the City's re:codeLA process with the intent of streamlining the zoning regulations applicable to coastal zones in the City. The re:codeLA effort is intended to take shape over the next 3 – 4 years so coordination throughout Phases 1 – 3 of this work program will be integral to the development of a potential coastal code or other streamlined set of coastal regulations.

6. Project Integration/Leverage/Matching Funds

The City of Los Angeles has embarked on a number of complimentary activities that can inform and influence the development of the Venice LCP. The comprehensive overhaul of the zoning code re:codeLA will result in a more user friendly updated code that reflects planning in a modern era. The re:codeLA will modernize the code, reorganizing and streamlining regulations and procedures, and offers the potential opportunity to build in new zones for the coastal region of Los Angeles. The City has committed more than \$5 million for this effort.

At the same time the City is preparing a new Citywide Mobility Plan for 2035 (Mobility Element) which replaces the city's Transportation Element. The new Mobility Element develops new citywide street standards; new street networks creating enhancements for bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit; and proposals for financing and implementation of mobility improvements. This effort represents a partnership between the Departments of Planning and Transportation and has \$1.5 million committed to its completion.

The Westside Mobility Plan can be thought of as a subset of the Mobility Element. It is a targeted study of Los Angeles' Westside, and includes more

detailed analysis of future transportation in this geography, which includes Venice and other coastal communities. The Westside Mobility Plan was initiated in 2011 as an update to the long range transportation plans for the Westside communities of West LA, Venice, Palms, Westwood, Brentwood, Century City, Playa del Rey, Westchester, and LAX. The Westside Mobility Plan will result in a long range vision for transportation improvements particularly with emphasis on the North-South corridors (e.g. Lincoln Blvd and Sepulveda Blvd). A major focus of the Westside Mobility Plan is the update of the West Los Angeles Transportation Improvement and Mitigation Specific Plan and the Coastal Transportation Corridor Specific Plan. These 2 specific plans assess trip fees on new development and will identify new multi-modal improvements such as transit facilities, streetscape plans, and bicycle lanes and other features that focus on non-auto oriented mobility. A final component of that plan is a parking study for the Westside that identifies locations of potential parking problems and opportunities for parking management improvements in 11 corridors and 8 districts (including Washington Blvd, Abbot Kinney, Culver-Playa in the coastal zone). Recommendations for pricing, signage and management of supply along with parking restriction revisions will result from that component of the study. More than \$3 million has been committed to that effort.

Both Mobility plans bring a multi-modal focus (transit, auto, bicycle and pedestrian) to Los Angeles streets. These long range planning efforts also dovetail with the Bicycle Implementation Plan, and the Exposition Corridor Transit Neighborhood Plan (TNP), a specific plan for five station area adjacent neighborhoods in West Los Angeles and Palms, addressing new development regulations that better support transit ridership, creating more pedestrian-oriented design including streetscape plans, and improving the configuration and condition of streets. The TNP program is underway with grant funding from Metro of \$2 million.

The overall goal of these planning efforts is a transportation system with flexible travel options, locating transit facilities near dense activity centers, and improving the overall quality of the street environment to and from those facilities. All of these efforts will help to remove some of the obstacles to adopting a LCP in the Venice Community by ultimately improving overall mobility through increasing options for travel, providing alternatives to autos, accommodating change and LA's evolving transportation system, and mitigating impacts of new growth. Combined, these efforts represent more than \$6 million already committed to planning that will benefit the efforts to adopt an LCP in Venice.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

A complete Grant Application Packet includes the following components. Please submit all documents in a single PDF file and the Project Description, Work Program, Budget, and Schedule as a Word document, as noted below. **It is very important to receive the PDF file and a Word document for efficiency in preparing grant agreement documents.** Thank you for your attention to these important components of the application.

- ☐ Signed Joint Grant Application Form (.pdf)
- ☐ Project Description (.doc)
- ☐ Work Program, Budget, and Schedule (.doc)
- ☐ Signed Resolution(s) (.pdf)
- ☐ Supplemental form(s)
- ☐ All documents combined into a single PDF file (.pdf)